

USING A PUBLIC BINARY SEMAPHORE FOR TASK SYNCHRONIZATION

The typical use case has one task (the "Taker") in some memory space (RTP or the kernel) that will pend upon a binary semaphore, and another task (the "Giver") in some other memory space that will give the semaphore, thereby unblocking or synchronizing the Taker.

TASK GUIDE

Step	Action	Example
1	Create a project for each participant in the sharing of the semaphore.	
2	For the Taker, the first task to execute, write code that does the following: a) Creates the semaphore and captures its ID b) Loops, pending on a semaphore, printing a message when it is given	The code will look something like this: <pre>SEM_ID semId; semId = semOpen("/binSem", SEM_TYPE_BINARY, SEM_EMPTY, SEM_Q_FIFO, OM_CREATE, NULL); . . . FOREVER{ semTake(semId, WAIT_FOREVER); printf("Got the semaphore\n"); }</pre>
3	For the Giver, write code that does the following: a) Attaches to (gains access to) the queue and captures its ID b) Loops, sending a message every 5 seconds, for example	The code will look something like this: <pre>SEM_ID semId; semId = semOpen("/binSem", 0,0,0,0,0); . . . FOREVER{ semGive(semId); taskDelay(sysClkRateGet() * 5); }</pre>

Key Points

- The semOpen () call is used either to create the public task initially or to gain access to it. The only difference is the OM_CREATE option.
- The basic dialog could also be extended to have multiple Givers (very common) or Takers (less so). That extension is not covered here.

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